THE FIRST STEP OF THE INFORMAL CEREMONY IS FOR THE ARCHBISHOP TO FIGHT THE CANDIDATE, WHILE WIELDING THE KING'S SWORD, TO AWAKEN IT TO THE CANDIDATE'S PRESENCE.
FOR THE SECOND STEP, THE ARCHBISHOP WILL FORCE THE CANDIDATE AND THE SWORD TO FUSE BY STABBING THE SWORD INTO EITHER THE CANDIDATE'S HEART OR EYE.
IT SEEMS YOU HAVE SOME EXPERIENCE WITH A SWORD.
白の皇国物語
第五回
原作：白沢戌亥
漫画：不二まーゆ

I FENCED A LITTLE IN MY PREVIOUS WORLD.
COME FORTH,
COME FORTH,
皇
STRENGTH OF THE KING!
力
THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO SEE, THIS COULD WORK.

THE SWORD HAS BEGUN TO AWAKEN. NOW COMES THE ORDEAL.
ON TO THE NEXT STAGE!
PLEASE ACCEPT THE SWORD, MASTER LECTIVAL!
レクティバル様の体がもちますよう

HERE I COME, LECTIVAL!

KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN!

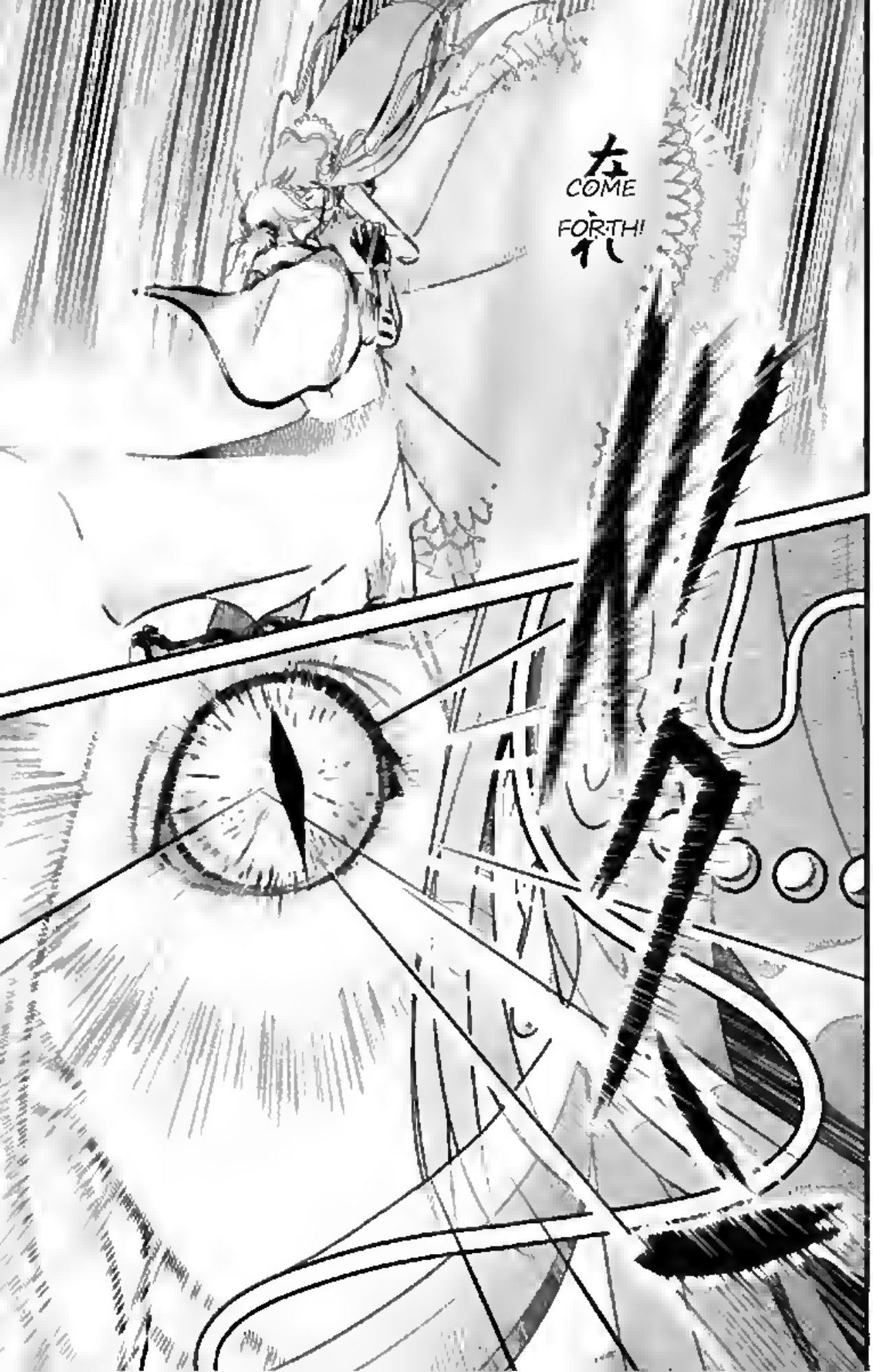
KING, COME FORTH!
I'M COMING, ELDER SISTER!
LILICIA!

MY BELOVED LITTLE SISTER!
MY ROLE ENDS HERE, IT'S ALL UP TO YOU NOW,
YES!

JUST A LITTLE MORE, MASTER LECTIVAL,
I AM RIGHT HERE.

I WILL STAY WITH YOU!
在れ
COME;
COME FORTH,
LIGHT OF THIS
LAND.
の光

この地の星
STAR OF THIS LAND,
この闇の闇
DARKNESS OF THIS LAND,
この月の月
MOON OF THIS LAND,
闇の中より照らす者よ
ONE WHO SHINES BRIGHTER IN DARKNESS,
我と共に
WITH US...
EXCUSE ME, MASTER LECTIVAL!


COME
FORTH!

ARE THESE
THE PAST KINGS?
THE SWORD'S RECORDS?

HEY, BROTHER.
YOU PROBABLY WANT TO WHY WE'RE HERE.
ANOTHER ME?
RIGHT, I'M SOMETHING LIKE THE FIRST KING'S MEMORY BEFORE HE BECAME THE KING, PLUS SOME EXTRAS.
WHO ARE YOU?

DON'T BE SO CAUTIOUS, YOU MIGHT BE THE WARIEST ONE TO COME HERE.
NO NEED TO BE SO SHOCKED, EVERYONE HAS MET "ME" ONCE.
YEAH, IF I'M TO DIE, I'D PREFER A MORE APPROPRIATE WAY.
TO RETURN ALIVE?
I DO HAVE MY DUTIES AFTER ALL.
HAHA! TRUE, YOU SIMPLY HAVE TO CATCH IT AGAIN...
I'LL SIMPLY CATCH IT AGAIN, IF IT'S SLIPPED AWAY, I CAN OBTAIN IT YET AGAIN.
YOU'RE QUITE THE SERIOUS ONE, BUT IF YOU THINK TOO HARD, WHATEVER YOU VALUE WILL SLIP FROM YOUR HANDS.

SWORD!
THERE ARE THINGS IN THE WORLD THAT DISAPPEAR IF THEY SLIP AWAY.
I AM HERE TO GIVE THOSE THAT WISH TO BECOME THE KING A FINAL WARNING.
BUT REMEMBER THIS.
I WON'T DEMAND THAT YOU DON'T LET IT SLIP, IF IT DISAPPEARS FOREVER, YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO TAKE RESPON-SIBILITY.

THE KING(WE) IS AN ABNORMAL BEING, SOMEWHERE IN OUR HEARTS, SOMETHING IS OFF.
YOU REALIZE THAT YOURSELF, DON'T YOU?
TRUE...
HOWEVER, WHAT IS WRONG WITH THAT?
DEVIANT, DIFFERENT, HERETIC, IF DIFFERING FROM OTHERS IS A SIN, THEN THE ENTIRE WORLD IS BURDENED WITH IT.
RATHER THAN BECOME SOMEONE I'M NOT, I'LL GLADLY BEAR THAT SIN.

I WILL LIVE AS MYSELF! WITH MY SINS, CURSES, AND RESPONSIBI-LITIES!
I'LL BEAR THEM ALL!
EACH AND EVERY-

I SEE... PERHAPS THAT MIGHT BE AN INTERESTING WAY OF LIVING.
BUT JUST BECAUSE IT'S INTERESTING, DOESN'T MEAN THINGS WILL GO WELL.

JUST BEING ABLE TO FEEL PAIN IS A BLESSING, NO? HUMANS CAN GET ACCUSTOMED TO PAIN.
JEALOUSY, ENMITY, ENVY, THEY ARE ALSO FORMS OF PAIN, BUT THAT HAS BEEN FORGOTTEN.
SOMETIMES I WONDER IF IF PEOPLE WILL JUST FORGET ABOUT THE VERY CONCEPT OF PAIN.
"WE" MIGHT BE AMONG THE FIRST OF THOSE.
SO WHAT...

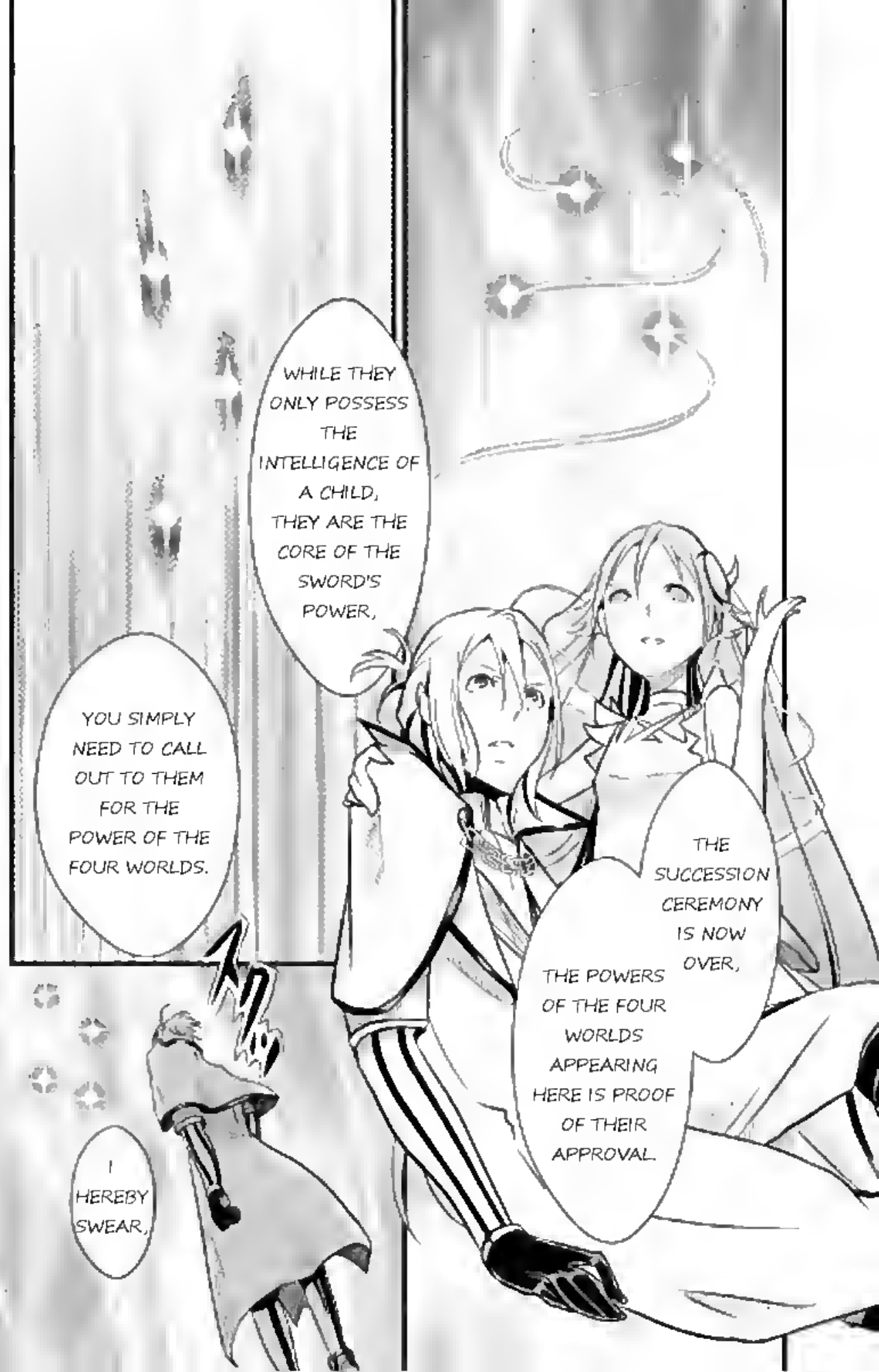
SO WHAT IF YOU CAN GET USED TO PAIN?
IF BEING ACCUSTOMED TO PAIN MEANS TO OVERCOME IT, THEN I WON'T LET ANYONE DENY IT.
IT'S FINE IF ONLY WE REMEMBER IT, AS LONG AS WE DON'T FORGET WHAT PAIN IS, PEOPLE WON'T EITHER.

IS THAT NOT WHAT YOU HAVE DONE?
I SEE...
I CAN UNDERSTAND YOUR ARRIVAL HERE.
THEN WHY DON'T YOU LIVE LIKE THAT!

!?!!
I WOULDN'T KNOW HOW INTEREST-ING IT IS... IT'S SIMPLY THE ONLY WAY OF LIVING I KNOW OF.
THAT TOO IS AN INTEREST-ING WAY TO LIVE.
THEN JUST DO WHAT YOU CAN.

"I" CAN NO LONGER SEPARATE FROM YOU, AND YOU CANNOT RETURN TO HOW YOU USED TO BE.
SO ISN'T THAT THE ONLY THING LEFT, "ME"?
JUST DO IT WELL, JUST AS THE "YOU" INSIDE ME WOULD WISH FOR.
YES.

MASTER LECTIVAL, ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
MASTER LECTIVAL.
YOUR EYES...
BEAUTIFUL, LIKE THE DEEP SEA.
LILICIA, WERE YOU BESIDE ME THIS WHOLE TIME?


WHILE THEY ONLY POSSESS THE INTELLIGENCE OF A CHILD, THEY ARE THE CORE OF THE SWORD'S POWER,
YOU SIMPLY NEED TO CALL OUT TO THEM FOR THE POWER OF THE FOUR WORLDS.
THE SUCCESSION CEREMONY IS NOW OVER,
THE POWERS OF THE FOUR WORLDS APPEARING HERE IS PROOF OF THEIR APPROVAL.
I HEREBY SWEAR,

I SHALL CONTINUE TO LIVE AS MYSELF. EVEN IF I GIVE UP, AM DEFEATED, OR LOSE SIGHT OF THE LIGHT, I WILL STILL GO ON.
LET US BE TOGETHER, FRIENDS, UNTIL THE DAY I DIE.
IF YOU WILL ACCEPT ME, ONE WHO ONLY KNOWS HOW TO GIVE UP, AS YOUR BROTHER,